Kuttand development package in Kerala

23. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allotted any fund to the Kuttand package as per the report of Swaminathan Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the package and measures being taken for its implementation;

(c) the total amount earmarked for the above package; and

(d) the Central Government quota and State's contribution in this package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) For development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system as a part of Rehabilitation Package for the farmers in suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra, the Government has granted 'in-principle' approval for providing financial support for implementing various programmes/interventions suggested by M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation. The programme/interventions are to be implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments within their existing schemes and funding pattern for which the Government of Kerala will after identifying the activities to be undertaken, submit appropriate proposals after formulation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the approved guidelines/procedures for such schemes for release of necessary funds. Approval of Kuttanad development package has been communicated to the Government of Kerala and other concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India and they have been advised to initiate necessary steps for effective implementation of the approved programmes/interventions for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system. The details of approved programmes/interventions for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Task	Details of Tasks	Amount
1	2	3
A.	**Tasks pertaining to Irrigation and Water Resources Development**	
1.	Modernization of TMB to manage salinity and minimize ecological decay	160.00
2.	Improving the efficiency of the TSW and leading channel	18.90
3.	Regulation of floodwater in Kayal area near C and D and Rani-Chithira Blocks	40.00
4.	Complete construction of AC canal with removal of all blocks	80.00

1	2	3
	5. Supporting research study by a consortium of competent organizations on TMB operation and Kayal ecology	0.60
	6. Need for restoration of KWS, Onattukara and Thuravoor-Pattanakkadu rivers, canals, drains and water bodies like ponds	361.00
	7. Orumuttus Creation of 33 permanent Kottachira across Kariyar	22.00
	8. Provide infrastructure support to paddy cultivation	836.00
	Sub Total	**1518.50**
B.	**Tasks pertaining to Rural Development**	
	1. The use of domestic toilets linked to ferro-cement septic tanks either individually or a cluster of few houses	2.50
	2. Install roof top rainwater harvesting for all houses using ferro-cement tanks	2.50
	Sub Total	**5.00**
C.	**Tasks pertaining to Environment and Forests**	
	1. Systematic programme all over Kuttanad and rest of Alappuzha for elimination of water hyacinth	30.00
	2. Promote mangrove restoration along the banks of Vembanad Kayal and Kayamkulam Kayal	0.50
	Sub Total	**30.50**
D.	**Tasks pertaining to Tourism**	
	1. Promotion of farm tourism involving farm families	0.50
	Sub Total	**0.50**
E.	**Tasks pertaining to Development of Agricultural Activities**	
	1. Declaring Kuttanad as a Special Agricultural Zone	15.00
	2. Supply of pumps and Agricultural machinery for common use at padasekharam level	85.00
	3. Onattukara first paddy cultivation charges	12.00
	4. Promotion of rice-sesame rotation in Onattukara	0.60
	5. Certified seed production for Kuttanad and Onattukara	7.50
	6. Support for soil test based fertilizer application	0.20

1	2	3
	7. Pest forecasting and early warning service	0.20
	8. Establishment of paddy go-downs in Kuttanad	4.00
	9. Training youths in skilled agricultural jobs	0.50
	10. Establishing and supporting 'Agri-Clinics' in study area	0.80
	11. Production bonus enhancement in Purakkad Kari	0.20
	12. Relief to farmers for restarting agricultural and economic activities	50.00
	13. Establishing creches for the use of women labourers	0.35
	14. Crash programme on re-planting diseased and low yielding palms	62.00
	15. Coconut revival programme for improving health and productivity	15.00
	16. Promotion of cluster based and market linked value addition-one time support to clusters for infrastructure	10.00
	17. The DoA-DoF-KAU jointly train and build the capacity of farmers	0.20
	18. Location-specific research, training and capacity building	8.50
	19. Establishment of Centre for Farm Machinery Research, Development and Training	4.50
	20. R and D on coconut climbing machine	0.20
	Sub Total	276.75
F.	**Tasks pertaining to development of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities**	
	1. The capacity of Duck Hatchery at Niranam	0.18
	2. One-time support for establishing integrated livestock and crop production in garden land	4.50
	3. Providing insurance cover to ducks-subsidy on premium	0.05
	4. Paddy fish integration for economic and ecological security and farmers' training	2.00
	5. Programme for revival of productivity for Pearl spot (karimeen) and giant prawns on a life cycle approach	0.50
	6. Cluster based Cage – subsidy support	0.60
	7. Ranching, involving large-scale hatchery-reared production of post-larvae	0.20

1	2	3
8.	Fish hatcheries for raising adequate quality fingerlines	0.60
9.	Fresh water prawn and karimeen urgent conservation measures	0.25
10.	Group based enterprise on ornamental fish culture	0.12
11.	Cold storage facility for the fishing communities	0.30
12.	Training and capacity building of fishermen and fingerlings production, improving sanitation and hygiene in processing units in processing units in Kuttanad	0.20
Sub Total		**9.50**
Grand Total		**1840.75**

(c) and (d) Government has approved financial allocation Rs. 1840.75 crore for implementation of various programmes/interventions for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system. These programmes/interventions are to be implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments within their existing schemes and funding pattern for which the Government of Kerala will after identifying the activities to be undertaken, submit appropriate proposals after formulation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the approved guidelines/procedures for such schemes for release of necessary funds. The Government has also approved that the programmes/interventions involving financial outlay upto Rs. 50 lakhs will be implemented by the State Government of Kerala from their own funds under their schemes.

Foreign aid for research in agriculture-sector

24. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the financial assistance from foreign countries for the research and development of agriculture is continuously declining;

(b) if so, the details of the foreign aid for the last three years and how much utilized so far;

(c) whether Government is taking any measures to increase the financial assistance from abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Agriculture is a priority area for the Government of India. As per information available, assistance from the World Bank which was US $ 143 million under National Agricultural Technology Project (1998 – 2005) has been increased to US $ 200 million under National Agricultural Innovation Project (2006 – 2012).